

Serial No. 10/808,590

Attorney Docket No. 26B-032

REMARKS

In part 12 of the Office Action Summary, none of the boxes are checked. That is, there is no acknowledgement of the claim for priority under section 119 and no notice that the certified copy of the priority document has been received. A certified copy of the priority document was submitted on 25 March 2004, when the application was filed. The applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of the claim for priority and the submission of the certified copy of the priority document in the next office communication.

The applicants acknowledge and appreciate receiving an initialed copy of the form PTO-1449 that was filed on 25 March 2004.

Claims 1-13 are pending. Claims 8-13 have been withdrawn. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Claims 1-7 were said to be incomplete for failing to recite the locations of the slit and the blocking piece on the base portion. Claim 1 has been clarified and now recites that the blocking piece is integrally formed with the mounting base portion at a side of the base portion that is opposite to the seal portion. Further, claim 1 now recites that the base piece portion of the blocking piece extends from an attachable mounting surface of the mounting base portion of the molded portion.

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Although the office action indicated that the location of the slit was not given in the claims, note that original claim 1 recited that the slit was formed in the mounting base portion. The wording of the section of claim 1 that introduces the slit has been rearranged for clarification. The claims are now considered to be complete and fully definite, and the applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

In addition to the changes mentioned above, other changes have been made to the claims for the purpose of clarification or for error correction and not in response to the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,


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